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TIM RYAN
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
13TH DISTRICT, OHIO
April 28, 2021

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SUBCOMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND
RELATED AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$1,000,000 for the Summa Health Sr. Ignatia Heritage and Reflection Center in Fiscal Year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is Summa Health, located at 1077 Gorge Blvd., Akron, OH 44310-2408. The project address is Summa Health 45 Arch Street, Akron, OH 44304.

Summa Health serves as the greater Akron region's largest nonprofit healthcare provider. The health system has a remarkable history relative to behavioral health services and innovation. Starting in 1939, Summa Health's St. Thomas Hospital clinical leaders, Sr. Mary Ignatia and Dr. Robert Smith, led the way by working together to serve patients struggling with alcohol addiction, and their efforts positioned the hospital and the region to be one of the first in the world to treat alcoholism as a disease. Today, the system continues to prioritize providing the best care and services to behavioral health patients. The system is building a new comprehensive and state-of-the-art behavioral health facility to meet the community's need. Within the new facility, the Sr. Ignatia Heritage and Reflection Center ("The Center") will be created to honor the woman who devoted her life to serving those in recovery. The Center will house a new conference center to host AA and other recovery meetings, a dedicated space to house AA archives, and a serene setting to support the reflection needs of the recovery community and their caregivers. This federal funding would allow them to complete work on the Center to provide this space for their patients and the community. Their project is a good use of taxpayer funding because it strongly aligns with the government's commitment to support individuals and families who are struggling with addiction and other behavioral health challenges. And it provides an exceptional example of public and private partners working together to preserve and promote the legacy of addiction medicine that was founded in Akron and within the great state of Ohio.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress